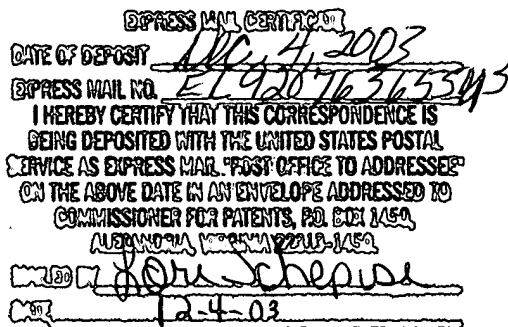


**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

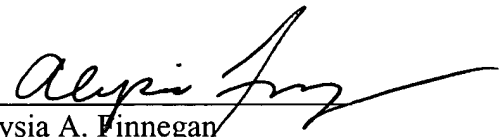
Claims 1-30 are canceled herein. New claims 31-34 are herein presented for consideration on the merits. Support for the new claims can be found, for example, in original claims 24-30. No new matter has been added.

Applicants assert all claims are in condition for allowance, and a favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.



Respectfully submitted,

By

  
Alysia A. Finnegan  
Reg. No.: 48,878  
Attorney for Applicants

MERCK & CO., INC.  
P.O. Box 2000  
Rahway, NJ 07065-0907  
(732) 594-2583

Date: December 3, 2003